

IN THE CLAIMS:

1 1. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid comprising the
2 coding sequence of ~~SEQ. I.D. No.~~ SEQ ID NO: 1.

1 2. (Previously Presented) A host cell transformed with a
2 heterologous nucleic acid having a sequence identical to the nucleic acid of Claim 1 or a
3 nucleic acid complementary to said heterologous nucleic acid.

3. (Canceled)

1 4. (Currently Amended) A host cell transformed with a nucleic acid
2 that encodes a heterologous polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of ~~SEQ. I.D.~~
3 ~~No. SEQ ID NO: 2 or a heterologous polypeptide having at least 80% sequence identity~~
4 ~~to said heterologous polypeptide.~~

1 5. (Currently Amended) A transgenic plant overexpressing the
2 nucleic acid of ~~SEQ. I.D. No.~~ SEQ ID NO: 1 ~~or a nucleic acid complementary to SEQ.~~
3 ~~I.D. No. 1.~~

1 6. (Currently Amended) A transgenic plant overexpressing a
2 polypeptide ~~selected from the group consisting of~~ having the amino acid sequence shown
3 in ~~SEQ. I.D. No. SEQ ID NO: 2~~ and an amino acid sequence having at least 70% identity
4 ~~to the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ. I.D. No. 2.~~

1 7. (Currently Amended) A method of altering circadian rhythms and
2 flowering in a plant comprising transforming the plant with a nucleic acid having the
3 sequence of ~~the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ. I.D. No. SEQ ID NO: 1.~~

1 8. (Currently Amended) A method of altering circadian rhythms and
2 flowering in a plant comprising transforming the plant to ~~alter expression of~~ overexpress
3 a polypeptide having ~~either~~ the amino acid sequence of ~~SEQ. I.D. No. SEQ ID NO: 2.~~

1 9. (Currently Amended) A method of altering circadian rhythms and
2 flowering in a plant comprising transforming the plant with a nucleic acid coding for a β -
3 subunit ~~changing activity~~ of protein kinase CK2 within the plant.